IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 3 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A vehicle airbag door comprising a door section that is provided at a panel main body and is opened by the activation of an airbag device,

wherein the airbag door further comprises a back-up member provided on the bottom side of the panel main body,

wherein the back-up member comprises:

a back-up section having a shooting aperture through which an airbag expands into a cabin;

a plate section located within the shooting aperture; and

a hinge section through which the back-up section and the plate section are integrally connected,

wherein the back-up section, the plate section and the hinge section are integrally formed,

wherein a gap is formed between an outer edge of the shooting aperture and the plate section,

wherein the back-up section is welded to the bottom face of the panel main body at a portion thereof located around and outwardly of the door section,

wherein the plate section is welded to the bottom face of the door section,

wherein the back-up section is provided with a concave that is recessed away from the door section with the concave being adjacent to the hinge section,

wherein the hinge section comprises:

a first curved portion in which one end of the first curved portion is integrally connected to the back-up section, and a midsection of the first curved portion is curved so as to protrude toward the door section; and

a second curved portion in which one end of the second curved portion is integrally connected to the other end of the first curved portion, the other end of the second curved portion is integrally connected to the plate section, and a midsection of the second curved portion is curved so as to protrude away from the door section,

wherein when the door section is opened, the first and second curved portions of the hinge section are each extended and then the plate section is pivoted around its junction with the second curved portion, and

wherein a rupturable groove that is provided on the bottom side of the panel main body, and is ruptured during deployment of the air bag, faces the back-up section.

2. (Previously Presented) The vehicle airbag door of Claim 1,

wherein the shooting aperture has an approximately rectangular shape, and corners of the shooting aperture are each formed to have a curved surface,

wherein the hinge section is provided to extend along one side of the shooting aperture,

wherein the plate section comprises:

a plate section main body integrally connected to the hinge section; and

extensions that are located outwardly of both longitudinal ends of the hinge section, integrally extended from the plate section main body to the vicinities of the corners of the shooting aperture, and welded to the bottom face of the door section, and

wherein the gap is formed to continuously extend from between the extensions and the outer edge of the shooting aperture to between the extensions and both the longitudinal ends of the hinge section.

3. (Currently Amended) A vehicle airbag door comprising a door section that is provided at a panel main body and is opened by the activation of an airbag device,

wherein the airbag door further comprises a back-up member provided on the bottom side of the panel main body,

wherein the back-up member comprises:

a back-up section having an approximately rectangular shooting aperture through which an airbag expands into a cabin;

a plate section located within the shooting aperture; and

a hinge section which is provided to extend along one side of the shooting aperture and through which the back-up section and the plate section are integrally connected,

wherein the back-up section, the plate section and the hinge section are integrally formed,

wherein a gap is formed between an outer edge of the shooting aperture and each of the outer periphery of the plate section and both longitudinal ends of the hinge section,

wherein the back-up section is welded to the bottom face of the panel main body at a portion thereof located around and outwardly of the door section,

wherein the plate section is welded to the bottom face of the door section, and

wherein the back-up section is provided with a concave that is recessed away from the door section with the concave being adjacent to the hinge section, and

wherein the hinge section comprises:

a first curved portion in which one end of the first curved portion is integrally connected to the back-up section, and a midsection of the first curved portion is curved so as to protrude toward the door section;

a second curved portion in which one end of the second curved portion is integrally connected to the other end of the first curved portion, the other end of the second

curved portion is integrally connected to the plate section, and a midsection of the second curved portion is curved so as to protrude away from the door section; and

ribs that are integrally formed with the hinge section at the bottom face of the first and second curved portions which are opposite to the door section and in the vicinities of both longitudinal ends of the first and second curved portions and across the first and second curved portions and

wherein a rupturable groove that is provided on the bottom side of the panel main body, and is ruptured during deployment of the air bag, faces the back-up section.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The vehicle airbag door of Claim 3,

wherein the plate section comprises:

a plate section main body integrally connected to the hinge section; and

extensions that are located outwardly of both the longitudinal ends of the hinge section, integrally extended from the plate section main body to the vicinities of corners of the shooting aperture, and welded to the bottom face of the door section,

wherein the gap is formed to continuously extend from between the extensions and the outer edge of the shooting aperture to between the extensions and both the longitudinal ends of the hinge section, and

wherein the ribs are formed continuously from the hinge section to the extensions of the plate section.